Numb. 29

THE South-Carolina Gazette.

Containing the freſheſt Advices Foreign and Domeſtick.

From Saturday, *July* 15, to Saturday, *Auguſt* 5, 1732.

——— Dum loquimur, fugerit invida
Ætas.——— Hor.

& quando hominem mori vidiſti, cogita eadem tibi via migrandum.
T. A. K.

IT would be thought a very trifling Undertaking, ſhould one produce all the Arguments he could think on, to prove that Man is Mortal; that from the moſt ſublime State of human Grandeur, to the moſt abject Condition among Men, none can eſcape the vulgar Lot of Humanity; but muſt all promiſcuouſly fall by the impartial and irreſiſtable Arm of the King of Terror, DEATH: *For Duſt thou art, and unto Duſt thou ſhalt return, ſays the Author of our Being:* I ſay it would be look'd on as a very trifling Undertaking, to endeavour to prove theſe things; ſince the common Offices of Life we daily perform, as eating, drinking, ſleeping, *&c.* and even our uſual Forms of Salutation are a perpetual *memento mori*, as a paſſing Bell inceſſantly ſounding in our Ears; and for that there's ſcarcely a Day paſſes, but exhibits occular Demonſtrations of the Brevity and Fragility of human Life.

Theſe things we all know; and happy, thrice happy were we, if the Conſideration of our Mortality, and ſhort abode here, had its proper effect on our Conduct, ſo that our Lives might be ſuch as becomes Perſons who profeſs to believe a future, and eternal State of Happineſs and Miſery, after this ſhort Life is ended; where the Souls of the faithful, after they are delivered from the Burden of the Fleſh, are in Joy and Felicity; and where the vicious and profane, who live without God in this World, ſhall be puniſhed with everlaſting Deſtruction from the Preſence of the Lord, and from the Glory of his Power.

But alas! the ſtupidity of mortal Men! we live as tho' we were actuated, and influenc'd by Sentiments diametrically oppoſite to our Profeſſion; as tho' all our Views terminated within this Sphere of Mortality, and here we were to have our unchangeable Abode.—— And ſo far are we from meditating, as we ought, on the great Change, which daily may happen to us, that terrible Moment, that will e're long fix a Period to this ſtate of Being, and determine us happy, or miſerable to all Eternity; that even at this Time of uncommon Mortality, they are few, very few, who are concern'd for Appearances, when they aſſiſt at the funeral Solemnities of their departed Neighbours. We ſit ſmoaking our Pipes, on theſe tragical Occaſions, with the ſame ſupine Air as tho' we were in the Tavern; and, with much the ſame Gaiety of Countenance, or Solicitude, talk of the trifling Pleaſures, and Concerns of this Life; little thinking that To-morrow we may be extended in the Coffin, a cold enanimated lump of Clay, as gaſtly an Object of Mortality, as now our departed Brother doth.

'Tis true the Death of near Relations, and intimate Friends; of Perſons we highly eſteem, or have any dependance on, is apt to make ſomewhat deeper Impreſſion upon our Minds; to open our Eyes, for a while, and let us ſee that we are deceived by meer Appearances, walk as in a Fairy round, and diſquiet ourſelves in vain: That were there ſomething of Reality in the Enjoyments of this World, yet they are not worth our Care, ſince we ſhall e're long, tho' with never ſo great Reluctance, leave them, & this World together; and that therefore we ought to regard this Life only as a Pilgrimage, and ourſelves as Strangers, and Pilgrims paſſing thro' this in queſt of another Country, *the City that has Foundations whoſe Builder and Maker is God*; where we expect to be admitted to the participation of thoſe rational and ſincere Pleaſures, which are the Entertainment of bleſſed Angels, *and Spirits of juſt Men made perfect.*—— This, or ſomething like this, is our way of Thinking on ſuch Occaſions: But no ſooner is the Cloud of Sorrow, which the ſhocking Object raiſed on our Minds, diſpell'd, than all theſe Thoughts vaniſh alſo; and we regard all the wiſe and pious Reſolutions form'd under the Influence thereof, as ſo many Obligations entered into by one under reſtraint and coercion.—— The mournful Penitent ſoon reſumes his wonted Air, and with renew'd Vigour, and his uſual Aſſiduity, applies himſelf to the Affairs of his Plantation, or Merchandize, or the Pleaſure

sures and trifling Amusement that heretofore engrossed his Time, & excluded the Thoughts of *Eternity*.

In short the Conduct of the far greater part of the *Professors of the Faith of Christ* would make one believe, we are now in the *Dregs of Time*, and that e're long we are to look for the Dissolution not only of our own Bodies, but of the whole System of visible Things also, in order to the tremendous appearing of the Son of God to judge the World; *When the Son Man cometh, saith our Lord, shall he find Faith on the Earth?* and these in reality seem to be Days of finish'd *Infidelity*; neither is there any other way, so well, to account for the preposterous preferance which Men give to the Affairs of this short Life, before those of Eternity, as the general Decay or want of Faith in the Promises, and Threatnings of the Gospel.

Were this the Case of the unthinking part of Mankind only, who have little power of Reflection, or Forecast; their Stupidity might in some measure account for it. But when Men of bright Genius, and admirable Dexterity in the Management of their secular Affairs, who are found on all Occasions to suit their Application to each, as 'tis of more or less importance to them; when such Men as these, I say, neglect the Affairs of the other World, & wholly give themselves up to this; they tell the World as effectually, as tho' they in so many Words said it, *That they believe nothing of a future State.*

When *Sylla* was advised to secure himself, by privately abandoning his Camp, and leaving his Men to stand the Shock of *Jugurtha's* Arms; He answered: *Animo feroci, &c.*—— (says *Sallust*) *That tho' he were sure of instant Destruction he would remain upon the Place, nor ever by shamful Flight betray those brave Men, he had the Honour to Command, to save a Life short at best, and which perhaps in a few Days after, might perish by some loathsome Disease.* An Answer, and Resolution worthy that brave and wise Nation, and flow'd from the Principle that made them Lords of the Universe, a Thirst of immortal Glory; in comparison whereof the *Roman* thought Life an insignificant Trifle.—— And is it to be imagin'd that the same Man who risqu'd his Life against the Hopes of an imaginary Immortality in the Memory of Posterity; if he had liv'd in the Time of *Christianity*, and believ'd the Gospel, would not have regarded the Things of this World, which soon will pass away, as Dross & Dung in respect of the substantial Immortality, *that exceeding, abundant Weight of Glory reserved in Heaven for such as by patient Continuance in well-doing seek for it?*—— Neither can it be thought but a *Christian*, who has as lively a Sense of, and firm a Persuasion of the Realty and transcendent Grandeur of the cælestial Glory, and of the Pain and Infamy of the infernal State, as the *Roman* had of military Glory, & the Shame of base Cowardice, will easily contemn all that in this Life, engages our pursuits, and with an Ardor suitable to the Greatness of the Danger he would avoid, and the Prize he has in view, press forward *thro' Honour and Dishonour; thro' evil Report, and good Report; thro' Labours, Watchings, Fastings, Wounds and Death, towards the Mark of his high Calling.*

We should see the Scene wonderfully changed for the better in the *Christian* World, were Men's Notions rectified in respect of Times & Eternity.—— Ambition, Avarice and voluptuous Desires, and indeed all the Passions of the human Mind would change their Objects, and become *Christian* Virtues.—— The Philosopher would despise Science falsly so call'd, and determin only to know *Jesus Christ, and him crucified:* He being *the Truth its self*, who leads his Followers to the pure Fountain of eternal Truth; where they will see Things, not as now *thro' a Glass darkly*, but really as they are: The Soldier would no longer seek Glory, in the Destruction of his Fellow-Creatures of the same Specie with himself, and in destroying the most beautiful Scenes of the World: But in perfecting the Conquest of himself, and subjecting every ambitious Thought to the Obedience of *Christ*, lest they should impede his march toward Heaven, where never fading Laurels crown the Victor, and eternal Triumphs reward his glorious Toyls: The Miser would be as diligent in *distributing his Money to the Poor*, as he is now to hoard or improve it, as being the readiest way to procure a *Treasure in Heaven, where Moth, nor Rust doth corrupt, and where Thieves break not thro' and steal:* The Merchant would lay out all his Skill and Treasure *to obtain the Pearl of great Price*, and be as assiduous in Acts of Devotion, as now in projecting Voyages, &c. as knowing, that will bring in the most certain, and valuable return in the End; and the Voluptuary, out of meer love of Pleasure, wou'd become an Hermit here, in order to enjoy the sincere, the immortal Pleasures of the cælestial Paradise hereafter. In a Word, all Things in this Life would be regarded only as they are of use to us, while we prepare for the next: Those tumultuous, rapid unruly Passions, that used to set the World in a Flame and Confusion, being by *Grace sanctified for Christian Purposes.*

As to the *nominal Christian*, the *Infidel* under the *Christian Name*, had we room for them Arguments would weigh but little with him perhaps, in order to reduce him to his original Principles: But let him know however, that he shall never get the absolute mastery over them: But that whenever melancholy and calamitous Circumstances, Sickness, or Death shall overtake him, and take off the Edge of his sensual Desires, they will be forever uppermost in his Thoughts, and haunt him like an angry Ghost into the other World. And if he should laugh at this Suggestion, in dependance on his own Strength; let him represent to his Mind the Great, the Virtuous, the Learned, the Magnanimous Emperor *Adrian*, trembling on the Brink of Eternity, in his Soliloquy to his departing Spirit:

Animula

Poor little, pretty fluttering Thing
Muſt we no longer live together?
And doſt thou prune thy trembling Wing
To take thy Flight, thou know'ſt not whither?
Thy humorous Vein, thy pleaſing Folly,
Lyes all neglected, and forgot;
And penſive wav'ring melancholy,
Thou dread'ſt, and hop'ſt thou know'ſt not what.

Prior.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

VIENNA, March 26.

THE Republick of Genoa has ſignified to the Imperial Court, that if they had not ſpeedily very powerful Succours, the Iſland of Corſica would be entirely loſt, the Malecontents having lately defeated entirely the Genoeſe Troops, and were 18,000 in Number.

LONDON, *Febr.* 26.

Mr. Pinchbeck has finiſhed a fine Muſical Clock, ſaid to be a moſt exquiſite piece of Workmanſhip, and worth about 1500 l. which is to be ſent over to the King of France.

We hear that Orders are given for all Officers abſent from their Commands, to repair with all convenient Speed to their reſpective Regiments at Gibraltar and Port Mahon.

March 4. On Saturday laſt an Iſſue directed out of the High Court of Chancery was tried in the Court of King's Bench, before the Lord Chief Juſtice Raymond, in which were the following remarkable Circumſtances, viz. About 7 Years ſince one Mr. Penderel married a Woman in London, and in a few Days after they had celebrated their Nuptials, he went into Staffordſhire, where he continued about 2 Years and an half, and then died, his Wife all the Time remaining in London: About the Time of his Death ſhe was brought to Bed of a Daughter, altho' ſhe had no Converſation with her Husband for above 2 Years before, yet ſhe ſet up her Daughter as right Heir to him, and a Suit was commenced in the Minor's Name, for an Eſtate of 100 l. a Year, which was given to the Great Grandfather of the Deceaſed by King Charles II. on his Reſtoration, for preſerving him in the Oak in the Time of the Grand Rebellion. The Mother call'd ſeveral Witneſſes, to prove, that ſhe had had Converſation with her Husband in London about 9 Months before the Child was born; but, there being little Conſiſtency in their Evidence, and Witneſſes of undoubted Credit ſwearing directly contrary, and proving he was in Staffordſhire all the Time 'till he died, and the Jury gave a Verdict for the Defendant, and the Child was diſpoſſeſſed of the Inheritance.

March 18. Laſt Thurſday an univerſal Dial was communicated to the Royal Society by one Mr. Roſs from Worceſterſhire. It does not exceed 7 Inches in Diameter, & yet ſhows the Time of Day to a Minute, as well when the Sun but juſt appears thro' a Cloud or thick Miſt, as when it actually ſhines out: It ſhows the Time of Night by ſeveral fix'd Stars, mention'd upon a Scale contriv'd for that Purpoſe, and are as readily diſtinguiſhed one from another by any Perſon that knows nothing of Aſtronomy, as by thoſe that are ever ſo familiar with it. It ſhows the Day of the Month, and the Declination of any Star or Planet: It takes any Angle as well as a Theodolite, and in ſhort anſwers all that a Globe is capable of: It may likewiſe be ſet in an Inſtant to the Meridian and Latitude of the Place, and may be either portable or fix'd.

Falmouth, in Caſco Bay, N. England, May 26. On the 17th Day of the laſt Month, arrived here a Maſt Ship, Capt. Will. Hills, which this Day finiſhed her Loading; her Cargo is large, fair, and fine Trees for the uſe of his Majeſty's Navy; and amongſt the reſt, there is one that is 40 Inches and a half Diameter, hewed into 16 Squares, holding its Bigneſs in all its Quarters, having a very large Tongue, and wanting but a few Inches of 29 Yards in length. Perhaps ſuch a Maſt or ſuch a Cargo hath hardly ever been carried into Great Britain, or ſuch Diſpatch known in ſuch a Caſe; as the excellence of the Pine Groves in theſe Parts furniſhed the Cargo, ſo the extraordinary Commodiouſneſs of the Harbour contributed to the Diſpatch in Loading the Ship, the ſame being accompliſhed in a Month and nine Days from her Arrival in our Bay.

New-York, June 5. We hear that the Act for iſſuing 20,000 l. in Bills of Credit for the Province of New-Jerſey, is allowed at Home; and that Gov. Cosby will bring over the ſaid Act. He deſign'd to embark about the latter End of April.

Philadelphia, June 19. From New-York, we hear, that on Saturday ſe'nnight, they had there moſt terrible Thunder and Lightning, but no great Damage done. The ſame Day we had ſome very hard Claps in theſe Parts; and 'tis ſaid, that in Bucks County, one Flaſh came ſo near a Lad, as without hurting